WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A telecommunication system, comprising:

a first telecommunication device, including:

a first interface coupled to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) in a first local calling area;

a second interface coupled to a packet network;

a third interface coupled to a first plain old telephone system (POTS) telephony device;

a router coupling the first, second, and third interfaces and operable to direct telecommunications between the first, second, and third interfaces;

a gateway operable to enable telecommunications between the first POTS telephony device and the packet network; and

a processor operable to:

receive signaling from the first POTS telephony device indicating a desire to establish telecommunications with a second POTS telephony device coupled to the PSTN in a second local calling area;

identify a second telecommunication device coupled to the packet network and coupled to the PSTN in the second local calling area;

determine whether the first telecommunication device has an appropriate amount of associated credit to use the second telecommunication device to establish telecommunications between the first and second POTS telephony devices; and

establish telecommunications between the first POTS telephony device and the second telecommunication device using the packet network; and

the second telecommunication device, comprising:

a first interface coupled to the PSTN in the second local calling area;

a second interface coupled to the packet network;

a router coupling the first and second interfaces and operable to direct telecommunications between the first and second interfaces;

a gateway operable to enable telecommunications between the second POTS telephony device and the packet network; and

a processor operable to establish, in response to communications from

the first telecommunication device, telecommunications between the second POTS telephony device and the first telecommunication device using the packet network, such that the first and second POTS telephony devices may communicate without using a long distance network coupling the first and second local calling areas.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the signaling from the first POTS telephony device identifies a telephone number of the second POTS telephony device.

3. The system of Claim 1, wherein identifying the second telecommunication device comprises evaluating one or more profile tables including information relating to the location of a plurality of telecommunication devices.

4. The system of Claim 3, wherein the information relating to the location of a particular telecommunication device is communicated by the particular telecommunication device to each of the other telecommunication devices when the particular telecommunication device is coupled to the packet network.

5. The system of Claim 1, wherein identifying the second telecommunication device comprises identifying a member of a subscriber group associated with the second local calling area.

6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the processor of the first telecommunication device is further operable to evaluate restrictions in a profile table relating to the use of the second telecommunication device to determine whether telecommunications may be established using the second telecommunication device.

7. The system of Claim 6, wherein the restrictions comprise access time restrictions associated with the second telecommunication device.

8. The system of Claim 6, wherein the restrictions comprise user access restrictions associated with the second telecommunication device.

9. The system of Claim 6, wherein the profile table is stored in a memory of the first telecommunication device.

10. The system of Claim 6, wherein the profile table is stored remotely from the first telecommunication device.

11. The system of Claim 1, wherein the processor of the first telecommunication device is further operable to determine whether the first interface of the second telecommunication device is available for use by the first telecommunication device.

12. The system of Claim 1, wherein:

the packet network comprises an Internet Protocol (IP) network; and

the telecommunications comprise voice over IP (VoIP) telecommunications.

13. The system of Claim 1, wherein:

the packet network comprises the Internet; and

the first and second telecommunication devices are each coupled to the packet network using an Internet service provider (ISP).

14. A first telecommunication device, comprising:

a first interface coupled to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) in a first local calling area;

a second interface coupled to a packet network;

a third interface coupled to a first plain old telephone system (POTS) telephony device;

a router coupling the first, second, and third interfaces and operable to direct telecommunications between the first, second, and third interfaces;

a gateway operable to enable telecommunications between the first POTS telephony device and the packet network; and

a processor operable to:

receive signaling from the first POTS telephony device indicating a desire to establish telecommunications with a second POTS telephony device coupled to the PSTN in a second local calling area;

identify a second telecommunication device coupled to the packet network and coupled to the PSTN in the second local calling area;

determine whether an appropriate amount of credit exists to use the second telecommunication device to establish telecommunications between the first and second POTS telephony devices; and

establish telecommunications between the first POTS telephony device and the second telecommunication device using the packet network, the second telecommunication device operable to establish telecommunications between the second POTS telephony device and the first telecommunication device using the packet network, such that the first and second POTS telephony devices may communicate without using a long distance network coupling the first and second local calling areas.

15. The device of Claim 14, wherein the signaling from the first POTS telephony device identifies a telephone number of the second POTS telephony device.

16. The device of Claim 14, wherein identifying the second telecommunication device comprises evaluating one or more profile tables including information relating to the location of a plurality of telecommunication devices.

17. The device of Claim 16, wherein the information relating to the location of a particular telecommunication device is communicated by the particular telecommunication device to each of the other telecommunication devices when the particular telecommunication device is coupled to the packet network.

18. The device of Claim 14, wherein identifying the second telecommunication device comprises identifying a member of a subscriber group associated with the second local calling area.

19. The device of Claim 14, wherein the processor is further operable to evaluate restrictions in a profile table relating to the use of the second telecommunication device to determine whether telecommunications may be established using the second telecommunication device.

20. The device of Claim 19, wherein the restrictions comprise access time restrictions associated with the second telecommunication device.

21. The device of Claim 19, wherein the restrictions comprise user access restrictions associated with the second telecommunication device.

22. The device of Claim 19, wherein the profile table is stored in a memory of the first telecommunication device.

23. The device of Claim 19, wherein the profile table is stored remotely from the first telecommunication device.

24. The device of Claim 14, wherein the processor is further operable to determine whether an interface of the second telecommunication device coupled to the PSTN in the second calling area is available for use.

25. The device of Claim 14, wherein:

the packet network comprises an Internet Protocol (IP) network; and

the telecommunications comprise voice over IP (VoIP) telecommunications.

26. The device of Claim 14, wherein:

the packet network comprises the Internet; and

the first and second telecommunication devices are each coupled to the packet network using an Internet service provider (ISP).

27. A method for establishing telecommunications, comprising:

receiving signaling from a first plain old telephone system (POTS) telephony device at a first telecommunication device coupled to a packet network and coupled to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) in a first local calling area, the signaling indicating a desire to establish telecommunications with a second POTS telephony device coupled to the PSTN in a second local calling area;

identifying a second telecommunication device coupled to the packet network and coupled to the PSTN in the second local calling area;

determining whether a user of the first POTS telephony device has an appropriate amount of credit to use the second telecommunication device to establish telecommunications between the first and second POTS telephony devices; and

establishing telecommunications between the first POTS telephony device and the second POTS telephony device using the second telecommunication device and the packet network, such that the first and second POTS telephony devices may communicate without using a long distance network coupling the first and second local calling areas.

28. The method of Claim 27, further comprising converting telecommunications received from the first and second POTS telephony device for communication using the packet network.

29. The method of Claim 27, wherein the signaling from the first POTS telephony device identifies a telephone number of the second POTS telephony device.

30. The method of Claim 27, wherein identifying the second telecommunication device comprises evaluating one or more profile tables including information relating to the location of a plurality of telecommunication devices.

31. The method of Claim 30, wherein the information relating to the location of a particular telecommunication device is communicated by the particular telecommunication device to each of the other telecommunication devices when the particular telecommunication device is coupled to the packet network.

32. The method of Claim 27, wherein identifying the second telecommunication device comprises identifying a member of a subscriber group associated with the second local calling area.

33. The method of Claim 27, further comprising evaluating restrictions in a profile table relating to the use of the second telecommunication device to determine whether telecommunications may be established using the second telecommunication device.

34. The method of Claim 33, wherein the restrictions comprise access time restrictions associated with the second telecommunication device.

35. The method of Claim 33, wherein the restrictions comprise user access restrictions associated with the second telecommunication device.

36. The method of Claim 33, wherein the profile table is stored in a memory of the first telecommunication device.

37. The method of Claim 33, wherein the profile table is stored remotely from the first telecommunication device.

38. The method of Claim 27, further comprising determining whether an interface of the second telecommunication device coupled to the PSTN in the second calling area is available for use by the first telecommunication device.

39. The method of Claim 27, wherein:

the packet network comprises an Internet Protocol (IP) network; and

the telecommunications comprise voice over IP (VoIP) telecommunications.

40. The method of Claim 27, wherein:

the packet network comprises the Internet; and

the first and second telecommunication devices are each coupled to the packet network using an Internet service provider (ISP).

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41. Logic for establishing telecommunications embodied in a computer-readable medium and operable to:

receive signaling from a first plain old telephone system (POTS) telephony device at a first telecommunication device coupled to a packet network and coupled to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) in a first local calling area, the signaling indicating a desire to establish telecommunications with a second POTS telephony device coupled to the PSTN in a second local calling area;

identify a second telecommunication device coupled to the packet network and coupled to the PSTN in the second local calling area;

determine whether a user of the first POTS telephony device has an appropriate amount of credit to use the second telecommunication device to establish telecommunications between the first and second POTS telephony devices; and

establish telecommunications between the first POTS telephony device and the second POTS telephony device using the second telecommunication device and the packet network, such that the first and second POTS telephony devices may communicate without using a long distance network coupling the first and second local calling areas.

42. The logic of Claim 41, further operable to convert telecommunications received from the first and second POTS telephony device for communication using the packet network.

43. The logic of Claim 41, wherein the signaling from the first POTS telephony device identifies a telephone number of the second POTS telephony device.

44. The logic of Claim 41, wherein identifying the second telecommunication device comprises evaluating one or more profile tables including information relating to the location of a plurality of telecommunication devices.

45. The logic of Claim 44, wherein the information relating to the location of a particular telecommunication device is communicated by the particular telecommunication device to each of the other telecommunication devices when the particular telecommunication device is coupled to the packet network.

46. The logic of Claim 41, wherein identifying the second telecommunication device comprises identifying a member of a subscriber group associated with the second local calling area.

47. The logic of Claim 41, further operable to evaluate restrictions in a profile table relating to the use of the second telecommunication device to determine whether telecommunications may be established using the second telecommunication device.

48. The logic of Claim 47, wherein the restrictions comprise access time restrictions associated with the second telecommunication device.

49. The logic of Claim 47, wherein the restrictions comprise user access restrictions associated with the second telecommunication device.

50. The logic of Claim 47, wherein the profile table is stored in a memory of the first telecommunication device.

51. The logic of Claim 47, wherein the profile table is stored remotely from the first telecommunication device.

52. The logic of Claim 41, further operable to determine whether an interface of the second telecommunication device coupled to the PSTN in the second calling area is available for use by the first telecommunication device.

53. The logic of Claim 41, wherein:

the packet network comprises an Internet Protocol (IP) network; and

the telecommunications comprise voice over IP (VoIP) telecommunications.

54. The logic of Claim 41, wherein:

the packet network comprises the Internet; and

the first and second telecommunication devices are each coupled to the packet network using an Internet service provider (ISP).

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55. A system for establishing telecommunications, comprising:

means for receiving signaling from a first plain old telephone system (POTS) telephony device at a first telecommunication device coupled to a packet network and coupled to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) in a first local calling area, the signaling indicating a desire to establish telecommunications with a second POTS telephony device coupled to the PSTN in a second local calling area;

means for identifying a second telecommunication device coupled to the packet network and coupled to the PSTN in the second local calling area;

means for determining whether a user of the first POTS telephony device has an appropriate amount of credit to use the second telecommunication device to establish telecommunications between the first and second POTS telephony devices; and

means for establishing telecommunications between the first POTS telephony device and the second POTS telephony device using the second telecommunication device and the packet network, such that the first and second POTS telephony devices may communicate without using a long distance network coupling the first and second local calling areas.